

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING JANUARY 19, 2021

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, January 19, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice-President Brad Bray, Member Jack Dodd, County Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Jessica Secrease.

The meeting was called to order by Major Gary Cook and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Wyman offered a word of prayer.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

January Employee of the Month:

Howard County Commissioners congratulated Howard County Correction officer Loretta McNally as January Employee of the Month. Officer McNally is recognized for maintaining the safety and security of her assigned post as well as making sure her daily tasks are complete in a timely manner. Officer McNally has risen to the challenge of becoming a field training officer, Officer McNally also makes sure the facility is running efficiently each day before she finishes her shift.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of January 4, 2021, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd, Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

****The Board of Commissioner's Meeting Recessed to Initiate the Board of Finance Meeting****

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING:

The Election of the Board of Finance Officers:

Mr. Bray made a motion to recess the Commissioners Meeting and open the Board of Finance Meeting. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Bray made a motion to retain Mr. Wyman as President of the Board of Finance; Mr. Bray and Mr. Dodd as members and Christie Branch as the Secretary.

The minutes of the meeting held on January 21, 2020, Board of Finance Meeting reporting figures for 2019, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Dodd, Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the list of financial institutions for investments for Howard County 2021 as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The investment policy and the list of approved depositories has changed as of July 1, 2020. The only change are those deputized staff members that have the authority in investing. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the investment policy as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Treasurer Christie Branch presented the Board of Finance Report for 2020. The Treasurer's Office had an increase in growth with a collection rate of 95%, in the sum of \$97,596,785.06 for 2020 taxes alone. For a combined collection rate for the spring and fall installments at 95%, the breakdown being that the spring installment rate was 98% and the fall installment rate at 93% making the total amount of taxes collected 4% more than 2019. The revenue for the 2020 tax sale was \$390,782.29 this is up 22% compared to the 2019 tax sale. The Inn-keepers tax collections as of today are \$753,474.75 for 2020, that puts the County down 11% compared to 2019's collection. The total interest earned in 2020 through our local banks, CD's & federal agency bonds are \$408,632.59, this is down 61% from 2019 interest.

Mr. Bray made a motion to close the Board of Finance Meeting and reopen the Commissioners Meeting. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

****The Board of Finance meeting was adjourned and the Board of Commissioner's Meeting reconvened****

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

MAINTENANCE:

RBI Heater for HCCJC :

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented the cost for the replacement of the RBI Heater plus shipping for Howard County Criminal Justices Center, the cost will not exceed \$10,500 and Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay for it from Cum Cap Building Repair 1138.47241. The replacement of the RBI heater is approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd, Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Signature of the Contract With NLEC:

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented the NLEC Engineering (Jail Roof Phase 3) contract for signature, this is in the amount of \$12,500.00, this contract was previous presented to the Commissioners on December 21st 2020. The contract was approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray, Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Amended Waste Management Dumpster Contract:

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented the amended contract for Waste Management for the dumpster service at Work Release for \$333.11 per month. The contract was amended, approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd, Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPT:

Community Crossings Grant Monetary Commitment:

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle presented that the highway department would like to have permission to apply for the Community Crossing Grant and the county will need to commit to their portion of the grant, which is one million dollars. Commissioner Bray made a motion to approve the application for the grant as presented. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on January 15, 2021 in the amount of \$883,419.45 were submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid January 19th, 2021. in the amount of \$4,187,258.41 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and the motion carried.
3. **Ratify Claims:** Auditor Jessica Secrease presented claims to be ratified, Martin Bros. T.V. Appliances in the amount of \$1798.00, Information & Records Associates Inc. in the amount of \$1,956.62., Air tame Inc. in the amount of \$2,020.00 and \$2,409.00, Stella Doan in the amount of \$408.00 for ratification, these claims will be paid out of the Cares Act 1&2 money. A motion was made by Commissioner Dodd to ratify these claims. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and motion carried.
4. **Monthly Reports:** Auditor Jessica Secrease presented the following reports to be received into the record: Weights & Measures, Clerk office, Treasurer Reports.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

Attorney Alan Wilson, presented that the Federal Law requires a certification that we have developed the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan. The Howard County Equal Employment Opportunity Plan is certified as well as Mr.

Wyman is authorized to sign the certification form, the form was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Jerry Paul, President of the Howard County Veterans Memorial, delivered 1.2 million pop tabs to Riley Hospital in Indianapolis for 2020. Mr. Paul stated that since the beginning of collecting the pop tabs the total is over fifty million. Mr. Paul presented an update on the Women's Legacy Memorial that will be constructed at the Howard County Court House. Due to COVID this last year it was very difficult to do any fund raising. Mr. Paul stated that with the help of Mrs. Carol Wills doing a yearlong fund raiser at Hog Haven and with the application of the \$50,0000.00 grant they should have enough funds to go forward with the construction of the Women's Legacy Memorial.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners
at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m. on a motion
made by Commissioner Bray, seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and carried.*

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Meeting January 19, 2021